



Abstraction in realism via watercolors

Yuri Ozaki, who's a native of Japan, has been in the United States for 17 years and has had a studio at Lowe Mill for a total of almost 10 years. In 2007, her first studio was on the second floor. She took a break from 2012 to 2014 and returned to the community as part of the third floor. **C1**



Ministers take ash distribution to the streets

The Rev. Tom Osborne, a deacon at Grace Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Jim Storie, pastor at First Christian Church, were among a group of ministers who stood beneath umbrellas at various downtown locations Wednesday offering to distribute ashes to passersby. **B1**

Pooch barred from race for Kansas governor

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — Kansas election officials are putting the brakes on a dog's campaign for governor. According to reports, Terran Woolley, of Hutchinson, decided to file the paperwork over the weekend for his 3-year-old pooch, Angus, to run for the state's top office after reading stories about six teenage candidates. The teens entered the race after learning Kansas doesn't have an age requirement, something lawmakers are seeking to change.

Wednesday's question: Which among these is your favorite additional ingredient in mac and cheese?

Bacon: 19.8%
Beef: 8.9%
Mushrooms: 2.5%
Chicken: 2.9%
I'm a mac and cheese purist: 66.9%

Today's question: What do you think of Trump's proposal to cut food stamp benefits in half and replace them with home-delivered food boxes? Vote at TimesDaily.com

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TIMES DAILY

FLORENCE ■ MUSCLE SHOALS ■ SHEFFIELD ■ TUSCUMBIA ■ NORTHWEST ALABAMA



UNA women's basketball: Lions roll to 23rd win this season. D1

WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

District boundaries established

By Robert Palmer
Staff Writer

FLORENCE — Downtown will become an experimental zone in March when the first weekend entertainment district is enacted. The City Council approved the district earlier this month after several years of discussion. The boundaries take in most of the downtown business district where restaurants are concentrated. During weekends when the district is in effect, restaurant patrons will be allowed to take alcoholic beverages outside in specially marked cups. Several cities in Alabama have entertainment districts. Florence's is modeled after the Tuscaloosa district. The first weekend for the entertainment district is March 16, which coincides with St. Patrick's Day.

Andy Frith, president of Downtown Florence Unlimited (DFU), the merchant's association that supports the entertainment district, said he has not received any negative comments from churches inside the district.

SEE DISTRICT, A3

FLORIDA



In this frame grab from video provided by WPLG-TV, students from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., evacuate the school following a shooting there Wednesday. [WPLG-TV VIA AP]

17 dead in school shooting

Former student suspected of attack had one rifle, multiple magazines

By Terry Spencer and Kelli Kennedy
The Associated Press

PARKLAND, Fla. — A former student opened fire at a Florida high school Wednesday as classes were being dismissed, killing at least 17 people and sending scores of students running into the streets to escape the bullets. Frantic parents rushed to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where SWAT team members and ambulances had surrounded the campus. Live footage showed emergency workers who appeared to be treating the wounded on sidewalks. "It is a horrific situation," Superintendent Robert Runcie said. "It is a horrible day for us." The 19-year-old suspect was taken into custody without incident about an hour after he left the school, authorities said.



Parents wait for news after reports of a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., on Wednesday. [JOEL AUERBACH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

SEE SHOOTING, A3

FLOODING

Bass tournament postponed

Event rescheduled for Sept. 22

By Bernie Delinski
Staff Writer

FLORENCE — The Alabama Bass Trail's Pickwick Lake Tournament scheduled for this weekend has been postponed because of flooding conditions along the Tennessee River. Kay Donaldson, of the Alabama Bass Trail, said Wednesday the tournament has been rescheduled for Sept. 22. "Safety always comes first," Donaldson said. "The health and well-being of our anglers always comes first." She said 225 teams are scheduled for the tournament. "So that's about 450 anglers," Donaldson said. "It would be a lot of risk. With the water conditions and debris fields all over, we just felt like those are pretty rough conditions to put that many anglers out there." The Shoals has been inundated with rainfall in the past week, causing Pickwick Lake to rise. At the same time, the Tennessee Valley Authority has been releasing water through the Wilson Dam spillways to help minimize flooding throughout the agency's reservoir system. That has meant choppy water conditions. In addition, the lake had been at low winter pool levels so it picked up debris from the banks as it rose. Adding to that is the fact that more rain is expected Friday and Saturday. "You have to respect the water," Donaldson said. "You've got to respect the conditions that we're in. It doesn't make sense to put any lives at risk." She said local officials have been helpful and understanding about the postponement. "I can't say enough about their help," Donaldson said. "They worked with us all week, and this

SEE BASS, A3

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